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American Gas Association

Planning and Analysis

1515 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Gas Stats

Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report

Department of Statistics
Editor: Vanessa Chu (703) 841-8503

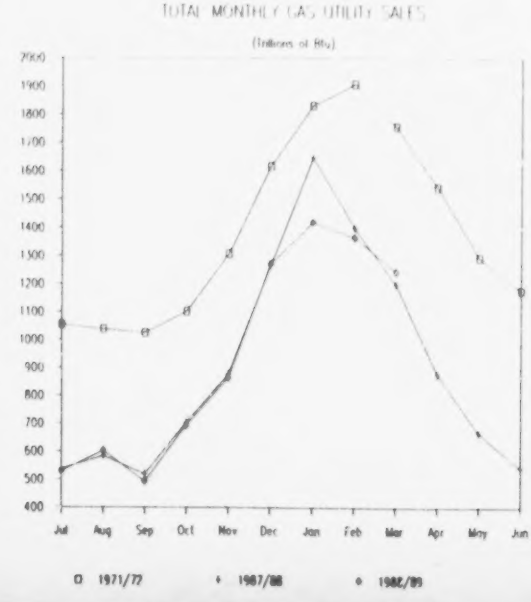
MARCH 1989

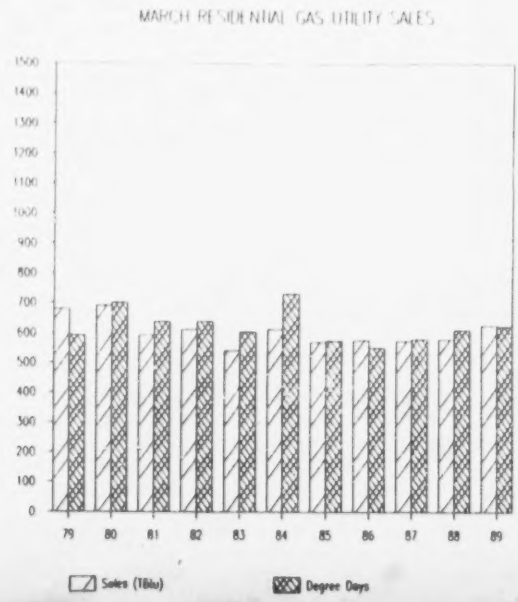
Residential, commercial and electric generation sales increased while industrial sales decreased in March 1989 compared with last year. Total utility sales were up from 1,197.6 trillion Btu in March 1988 to 1,243.5 trillion Btu in March 1989. Transportation volumes to end users were up 16.5 percent compared with last year.

GAS UTILITY VOLUMES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

	March			Heating Season (Nov-Mar)		January 1 to December 31		
	1989	1988	%Change[1]	1989	(% Change) Last Period	1989 Forecast[2]	1988p	% Change
Residential	623.1	576.5	+ 8.1	3,218.3	+ 0.6	4,533.3	4,687.9	- 3.3
Commercial	287.4	276.7	+ 3.9	1,447.2	- 1.8	2,225.3	2,294.4	- 3.0
Industrial*	206.6	221.3	- 6.7	1,034.0	- 12.8	2,224.9	2,343.8	- 5.1
Elec. Gen.*	109.4	105.7	+ 3.5	363.5	- 18.4	1,292.2	1,288.8	+ 0.3
Other	17.0	17.4	-	97.8	-	157.1	161.7	-
Total Sales	1,243.5	1,197.6	+ 3.8	6,160.8	- 3.7	10,432.8	10,776.6	- 3.2
Transportation*	431.3	370.3	+ 16.5	1,917.4	+ 16.3	4,235.9	4,063.5	+ 4.2
Total Volumes	1,674.8	1,567.9	+ 6.8	8,078.2	+ 0.7	14,668.7	14,840.1	- 1.2**
Degree Days***	620	607	+ 2.1	3,645	- 2.4			

*Significant sales volumes have been displaced by transportation volumes.
**No direct comparison with EIA consumption figures should be made.
***Source: NOAA (Weighted by Gas Homeheating Customers - Normal for March is 657).





RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS - MARCH
(Thousands of Units)

		1989	1988	% Change '88 vs. '89
Domestic Ranges	- Gas	194.0	175.4	+ 10.6
	- Electric	272.9	251.0	+ 8.7
Clothes Dryers	- Gas	87.0	82.7	+ 5.2
	- Electric	297.7	276.6	+ 7.6
Water Heaters	- Gas	375.2	334.1	+ 12.3
	- Electric	294.5	283.2	+ 4.0
Warm Air Furnaces	- Gas	135.2	148.0	- 8.6
	- Electric	28.3	24.6	+ 15.0
	- Oil	9.8	11.9	- 17.8
Boilers	- Gas	11.3	12.0	- 5.9
	- Electric	N/A	0.1	N/A
	- Oil	9.4	9.7	- 3.0

Source: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA). Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers.

SPOT PRICES TO GAS DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES
(March 1989)

Receipt Point	Price ($/MMBtu)[a]
Northeast	$2.12
Southeast	$2.17
Midwest	$1.90
Southwest	$1.67
West	$1.87
Total	$1.97

Source: American Gas Association
[a]Represents average price paid at receipt point for a one-month contract.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - MARCH

	1989	1988	% Change '88 vs '89
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	116.3	128.8	- 9.7
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1982 - 1984 = 100)			
Gas (utility pipe gas)	97.0	92.8	+ 4.5
Electricity	110.5	107.9	+ 2.4
Fuel Oil	80.4	78.8	+ 2.0

Source: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Index Total Gas Sales (1972 = 100)	70.7	68.1	+ 3.8
Gas Utility Prices ($/MMBtu)			
Residential	5.29	5.06	+ 4.6
Commercial	4.85	4.63	+ 4.7
Industrial	3.00	3.20	- 6.2
Electric Generation	2.40	2.55	- 5.9
Total	4.53	4.37	+ 3.6
Carriage Volumes[3] (Trillions of Btu)			
To Ultimate Consumers	431.3	370.3	+ 16.5
For Ultimate Consumers	134.0	138.9	- 3.5
For Resale	517.5	474.9	+ 9.0
Total	1,082.8	984.1	+ 10.0

Source: American Gas Association

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind. Only	Elec. Gen.	Other
1979	Dec.	2.522	2.918	2.665	2.261	2.120	1.937
1980	Dec.	3.134	3.612	3.336	3.184	2.651	2.667
1981	Dec.	3.650	4.161	3.909	3.311	3.241	3.458
1982	Dec.	4.456	4.969	4.721	3.969	4.090	4.303
1983	Dec.	5.120	5.882	5.508	4.486	4.198	4.921
1984	Dec.	5.128	5.938	5.511	4.410	4.222	4.869
1985	Dec.	5.017	5.953	5.441	4.248	3.812	4.791
1986	Dec.	4.602	5.651	5.035	3.650	2.726	4.025
1987	Dec.	4.315	5.387	4.764	3.112	2.513	3.424
1988[P]	Mar.	4.275	5.291	4.698	3.081	2.528	3.311
	Apr.	4.279	5.283	4.694	3.068	2.535	3.316
	May	4.162	5.277	4.678	3.050	2.513	3.318
	Jun.	4.150	5.271	4.661	3.026	2.506	3.302
	Jul.	4.142	5.270	4.648	2.988	2.512	3.337
	Aug.	4.242	5.267	4.630	2.952	2.562	3.344
	Sep.	4.242	5.267	4.620	2.936	2.577	3.361
	Oct.	4.244	5.270	4.617	2.909	2.590	3.356
	Nov.	4.262	5.279	4.613	2.912	2.618	3.336
	Dec.	4.293	5.295	4.634	2.922	2.645	3.395
1989[P]	Jan.	4.330	5.355	4.669	2.933	2.633	3.428
	Feb.	4.356	5.411	4.700	2.922	2.605	3.473
	Mar.	4.375	5.438	4.727	2.902	2.592	3.492

AVERAGE MONTHLY GAS UTILITY PRICES
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.& Elec.	Ind. Only	Elec. Only
1987	Mar.	4.47	5.13	4.72	3.11	3.34	2.63
	Apr.	4.29	5.26	4.78	2.92	3.25	2.53
	May	4.18	5.77	4.93	2.78	2.98	2.50
	Jun.	4.35	6.92	5.36	2.75	3.01	2.42
	Jul.	4.01	6.55	4.88	2.81	3.06	2.54
	Aug.	3.83	6.71	4.87	2.70	2.98	2.47
	Sep.	4.00	6.39	4.75	2.76	2.97	2.54
	Oct.	4.10	5.74	4.56	2.72	2.94	2.41
	Nov.	4.27	5.30	4.68	2.84	3.05	2.43
	Dec.	4.38	5.01	4.65	2.98	3.17	2.54
1988[P]	Jan.	4.37	4.91	4.57	2.95	2.99	2.79
	Feb.	4.46	5.33	4.61	3.21	3.28	2.94
	Mar.	4.37	5.06	4.63	2.99	3.20	2.55
	Apr.	4.33	5.16	4.74	2.92	3.09	2.63
	May	4.04	5.61	4.60	2.52	2.72	2.26
	Jun.	4.10	6.63	4.88	2.50	2.64	2.33
	Jul.	3.82	6.51	4.54	2.53	2.55	2.60
	Aug.	3.73	6.62	4.40	2.69	2.53	2.84
	Sep.	3.99	6.37	4.48	2.71	2.70	2.72
	Oct.	4.13	5.78	4.51	2.60	2.63	2.53
	Nov.	4.50	5.40	4.62	3.05	3.11	2.91
	Dec.	4.65	5.15	4.82	3.26	3.29	3.14
1989[P]	Jan.	4.66	5.21	4.80	3.01	3.13	2.56
	Feb.	4.67	5.27	4.82	2.99	3.20	2.41
	Mar.	4.53	5.29	4.85	2.80	3.00	2.40

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[1]Gas volumes are based on, and the percent change is a function of, the 69 sample companies whose sales constitute about 58% of total gas utility sales to ultimate consumers. The peak year in total sales for the gas utility industry occurred in 1972.
[2]1988 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1988 monthly data with the remaining months derived by using a four year average. The industrial sector forecast (industrial only, electric generation, and transportation) is also based on available 1988 monthly data with the remaining months of 1988 heavily weighted by last years volumes with no adjustment made for degree days.
[3]Carriage volumes determined by using a simple straight expansion of sample data to represent the total gas utility industry. Carriage volumes for ultimate consumers are volumes owned by the ultimate consumer but delivered to another transporter, not the ultimate consumer, and are therefore broken out to eliminate double counting of volumes delivered to ultimate consumers.
P-Preliminary.